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The Edmonton Coal Field, Alberta. By D. B. DOWLING. Canada Department of Mines, Geological Survey Branch, 1910. 59 pages, 2 maps.

The area primarily considered is on the Saskatchewan River, in and near Edmonton, but a short discussion of the surrounding coal fields is included. The coal is lignitic or semi-bituminous, and occurs near the middle and at the top of 700 feet of brackish water deposits, the Edmonton formation, at the top of the Cretaceous, and in Tertiary sandstone above. The lower horizon, the Clover Bar seam, is worked at Edmonton, and 80,000,000 tons are estimated to be available in an area of 14 square miles.

W. A. T.

Preliminary Memoir on the Lewes and Nordenskiold Rivers Coal District, Yukon Territory. By D. D. CAIRNES. Canada Department of Mines, Geological Survey Branch, 1910. 70 pages, 2 maps.

The development of the Whitehorse copper deposits was the incentive for the investigation of the available coal resources in the district described in this report. The important formations of the district are the Braeburn limestone (carboniferous?), the Laberge series, conglomerates, shales, sandstones, etc., and Tantalus conglomerates, Jurasso-Cretaceous. Tertiary volcanics have broken through these formations and overflowed them in many places. Important coking coal seams occur in the Tantalus conglomerates and near the top of the Laberge series, but they are available only near the navigable water, such as the Lewes River and Lake Laberge.

W. A. T.

Geology of the Nipigon Basin, Ontario. By A. W. G. WILSON. Canada Department of Mines, Geological Survey Branch, 1910. 152 pages, 1 map.

The region covered by this excellent report is underlain mainly by Laurentian gneisses and granites, but scattered over it are areas of greenstones and green schists, called Keewatin. A few bands of Lower Huronian rocks are known. Lying on the eroded surface of these formations is a series of conglomerates, sandstones, shales, and dolomitic limestones classed as Keweenawan, although the author believes they might be younger than pre-Cambrian. The youngest rock is a diabase, which occurs as intrusive sheets and flows. The evidence for and against the diabase occurring as a volcanic flow is fully discussed, the conclusion being that as now known they are basal residuals of former extensive flows.

The glacial geology is briefly discussed, the author concluding that ice erosion was very limited, except locally. The physiographic features are considered, also the economic geology, but no deposits of any value are known.

W. A. T.

The Geology and Ore Deposits of the West Pilbara Goldfield. By H. P. WOODWARD. Bull. No. 41, Western Australia Geological Survey. Pp. 142; 5 geological maps; 1 mining plan; 25 figs.

The first part of the bulletin is devoted to a general discussion of the physiography, geology, and petrography of the district, which occupies the triangular portion of the northwest division of the state included between the Fortescue and Yule rivers. The southern part of the area is a high tableland which drops abruptly to the wide, low coastal plain forming the northern part.

The oldest rocks in the region are metamorphosed sedimentaries—clay slates and shales—that have been intruded successively by dolerite, gabbro, and granite. The last is thought to have altered some of the clay slates and dolerites to crystalline schists. A period of subsidence was accompanied by an outburst of volcanic activity in the form of fissure eruptions of very fluid basic lava. Subsidence continued, and marine beds are found above the last lava flow. Re-elevation and denudation have given rise to the present topography. The various formations are described in some detail, and petrological notes on seventy specimens are appended.

The second part of the bulletin is devoted to a more detailed description of the country and the mining centers visited. The lodes are most frequently found in the altered sedimentaries. They carry, in addition to gold, varying amounts of pyrite, chalcopyrite, and galena. Little evidence regarding the genesis of the lodes is presented. Much of the material is of greater interest to the engineer and the investor than to the geologist.

A. D. B.